

### ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A communication network is provided which includes a primary label switched path having a plurality of switching routers. The communication network includes a secondary label switched path which extends from a selected primary path switching router, bypasses a section of the primary path and rejoins the primary path at a position downstream of the selected switching router. The selected switching router is conditioned to re-route data intended for transmission on the primary path, onto the secondary communication path in response to a fault on the section of the primary path which is bypassed by the secondary path to restore data transmission.